17th March 1955]

அரசாங்கம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தன்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தை ஏதாவது சொல்லி இருக்கின்றார்களா ? அப்படி சொல்லியிருந்தால், என்ன அபிப்பிராயம் கூறப்பட்டது என்பதைச் சொல்ல முடியுமா ? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—'' இந்த அரசாங்கம் தன்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தை தெரிவித்திருக்கிறது. பொதுவாக கைக்குத்தல் அரிசிக்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்ற யோசனையையே வரவேற்பதாகத் தன்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தைச் சொல்லியிருக்கின்றது. ''

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—'' What was the reason for surrendering the rice stock to the Government of India? Was it because the Madras Government were not able to sell it in the local markets? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Sir, it is not a question of the Madras Government's not being able to sell the rice. At the time when decontrol was announced, Government found that there was no need for their catering rice through fair price shops as there was no demand. So, this Government offered to surrender their stocks to the Government of India and they have taken the stocks.''

Subsidy for handloom weavers

* 232 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount of subsidy set apart for the handloom weavers in the State during the year 1953–54; and

(*b*) the amount of subsidy granted to the handloom weavers in the South Arcot district during the above period?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) No amount was set apart from the Cess Fund for direct disbursement to weavers as subsidy. A sum of Rs. 47,12,783 was allotted to this State from the Cess Fund as grant for the development of and assistance to the handloom industry.

'' (*b*) A subsidy of Rs. 3,068–13–0 was paid to the weavers' co-operative societies in South Arcot district up to 31st March 1954 towards recoupment of rebate allowed by them to the consumers of their handloom cloth.''

Sale of handloom clothes in Foreign countries

* 233 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any and, if so, what steps to popularize the sale of handloom clothes in foreign countries like Singapore, Ceylon, Indonesia. Aden, etc.?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' The Government of India have sanctioned a scheme for the development of markets for handloom cloth in the Middle East and the Far-East Countries. Under the Scheme, the Madras State Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society has appointed four Handloom Cloth Marketing Officers with headquarters at